



Drive Thru Safari trip

Recently, photographer Faith Burns and husband Chuck took a trip to the Topsey Exotic Ranch & Drive Thru Safari in Copperas Cove, Texas. Located 56 miles northwest of Georgetown on 350 acres, the ranch offers visitors a chance to see animals up-close and personal from the comfort of their cars. As Faith noted, "It's a great way to get out of the house, and you can take a car full of family and buy bags of feed to throw out the window to the animals." Visit topseyexoticranch.com.



Sun City Amateur Radio Society's November Fox Hunt

Ham radio operator Farrell Pitts, using radio directional finding equipment, was the first hunter to find a transmitter (the "Fox") hidden by the winner of last month's hunt. The new silver fox is being used in honor of Sun City's 25th anniversary which is being celebrated during 2021.

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Sun City Amateur Radio Society's January Fox Hunt

In honor of Sun City's Silver Anniversary which is being celebrated throughout 2021, the Amateur Radio Society (SCARS) has a brand new silver fox for their monthly Fox Hunt.

Ham radio operator Don Parrish was the first to find a hidden transmitter (the "Fox") during January's event. Note that the fox is masked!

This monthly Saturday morning event is sponsored to hone members' radio operation and signal-tracking skills. Each month's winner hides the "fox" somewhere in Sun City for the next hunt.



Garden Club Yard of the Month Sandy and Bernie Hallee 728 Breezeway Lane (N31)

By David Woerner

The most prominent feature of the beautiful yard at 728 Breezeway Lane is the wide greenbelt thickly covered with native oak trees which runs across the back. Several of these oak trees extend into the backyard of the lot. Homeowners Sandy and Bernie Hallee acquired the property in 2008 and saw the yard's potential. They soon learned that such a deep shade environment is not suitable for the common Central Texas lawn and border shrubs used in most Sun City backyards. They adapted to a design for the backyard with a large mulched area, a few shade-tolerant shrubs such as photinia and laurel, numerous potted plants of many varieties



ies and an eclectic collection of Talavera ceramic figures, a tall water fountain and other statuary. A highlight is a statue of Seventh Century Saint Fiace, the patron saint of gardeners. Both side yards have been unitized with neighbors, so the spaces are uniform and appear more ample than would a disassociated design.

The Hallee's eclectic style is continued in the front yard with a variety of flowering shrubs and large succulents such as esperanza, loropetalum and agave. Saint Fiace appears again, along with more

Talavera ceramics and potted flowers such as bougainvillea. A clump of gnarled heritage oak trees is bordered with a masonry ring and curving walking paths to create visual interest and provide access to the side yards. The front entrance to the home has been expanded with a large eccentric-shaped flagstone patio providing a sitting area bordered with brick knee walls and lantern fixtures. This charming yard is a welcoming treat for the eyes.



Sun City Amateur Radio Society's March Fox Hunt

Ham radio operator Jim Richardson, using radio directional finding equipment, was the first hunter to find a hidden transmitter (the "Fox") hidden by the winner of last month's hunt. The Fox (which is masked!) is the Silver Fox in honor of Sun City's Silver Anniversary.

This monthly Saturday morning radio hunt is sponsored by Sun City's ham radio club to hone members' radio operation and signal-tracking skills. Each month's winners hide the "Fox" somewhere in Sun City for next month's hunt.



Garden Club Yard of the Month Brenda and Warren Schimmeyer 204 Pristine Lane (N20)

By David Woerner

Walking into the Schimmeyer's backyard at 204 Pristine Lane gives a feel more like a high-end tropical resort than the typical Sun City property. The ample backyard is dominated by a sparkling swimming pool surrounded by palms and lush tropical flowers, and the space includes a pergola structure, a guest casita and a full outdoor kitchen. Brenda lived in Alaska since 1974; in 2005 she and her sister scouted retirement locations for their families in warmer parts of the country. The sisters both chose to move to homes in Sun City Texas. Brenda selected an estate-sized lot being developed in a special custom home section and selected her architect



and builder. The home was completed in April 2007, and Brenda began planning the landscaping. She wanted a tropical-theme backyard and a formal front appearance, and this yard succeeds on all counts. The backyard swimming pool is edged with potted flowering tropical plants including bougainvillea, hibiscus and Chinese fringe flower. The backdrop to the pool area is filled with fan palms, thick vines, and manicured scrubs. Carefully trimmed

Japanese yew, boxwood and Texas sage provide accents. A manicured appearance is continued in the front yard, with sculpted foundation plantings edged with large uniform limestone boulders. Two large Monterey Oaks provide symmetry and balance and anchor the front landscape design. This standout yard combines an ample-size property, exceptional design and execution, fastidious maintenance and fully-established landscaping.



PHOTOS BY DAVID VALDEZ



Cruisin' to Liberty Hill

On May 26, the Corvette Club enjoyed a cruise to Agape BBQ in Liberty Hill. The cruise lasted approximately 45 minutes and took the caravan of Corvettes on some beautiful Texas Hill Country back roads.

Sun City Amateur Radio Society's May Fox Hunt



Ham Radio operators Don Davidson, left, and Chuck Fletcher, using radio directional finding equipment, were the first hunters to find a hidden transmitter (the "Fox") hidden by the winner of last month's hunt.

This monthly Saturday morning radio hunt is sponsored by Sun City's ham radio club to hone members' radio operation and signal-tracking skills. Each month's winners hide the "Fox" somewhere in Sun City for next months' hunt.



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Sky Girls flock together

The Sky Girls of Sun City, a group of retired flight attendants, had their first meeting in more than 15 months in June. The meeting was filled with smiles, hugs and endless catching up. Renee Jantzen hosted the meeting with mimosas and a buffet brunch.

Front row: Mimi Boney, Renee Jantzen, Joanne Harrah, Nancy Neihart, Pam Meyners. Middle row: Jeanette Davis, Heidi Smisson, Lisa Hickok, Gail Lotak, Ann Tomlinson, Dona Blake, Francia Gentry, Jane Owens, Lee Carlisle. Back row: Elizabeth Eppes, Joy Fox, Yvonne Bidell, Rosemary Berkley, Barbara Council, Judy Petty, Frances Dallen, Carolyn Edelman, P.J. Edmonds.

Attending, but not in photo: Lucy Oxberry, Carol Baker and Carolyn Smithson.

Photo by Greg Neihart



Sun City Amateur Radio Society's June Fox Hunt

Ham radio operator Ken Jennings and Jeff Hahn, using radio directional finding equipment, were the first hunters to find a hidden transmitter (the "Fox") during last month's hunt. The "silver fox" they use is in honor of Sun City's 2021 Silver Anniversary.

This monthly Saturday morning radio hunt is sponsored by Sun City's ham radio club to hone members' radio operation and signal-tracking skills. Each month's winners hide the "Fox" somewhere in Sun City for the next hunt.



A great day for poker

The Poker Club held a Texas Hold'em No Limit tournament on August 10 with 29 members participating. Congratulations to Alan Bourdo, middle, for winning the tournament, Carl Sanders, left, placing second and Howard Hammerbeek, right, placing third.

Other winners included Best Hand tied Alan Bourdo and Don Howard and Bounties – Howard Hammerbeek, Alan Bourdo and Ricky Ray.



Sun City Amateur Radio Society's Fox Hunt

Ham radio operator Jim Richardson, using radio directional finding equipment, was the first hunter to locate a hidden transmitter (the "Fox") at the August Fox Hunt. This monthly Saturday morning radio activity is sponsored by Sun City's ham radio club to hone members' radio operation and signal-tracking skills. Each month the winners hide the "Fox" somewhere in Sun City for the hunt the next month.



Honoring a hero

Recently, N41 resident Sky King flew on the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. Mr. King visited nine memorials including Arlington National Cemetery where he viewed the Changing of the Guard ceremony. His group of 45 veterans had a rousing welcome at the airports in D.C. and Austin. Hundreds of people waved flags at the veterans, some of whom served in WWII.

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Sun City Amateur Radio Society's Fox Hunt

Ham radio operators Gilly Agustin, left, and Ken Jennings, right, were the first hunters to find a hidden transmitter, "The Fox." Each month's winners hide the "Fox" somewhere in Sun City for next month's hunt.

This monthly Saturday morning radio hunt is sponsored by Sun City's Ham Radio Club to hone members' radio operation and signal-tracking skills. Photo by Jeff Hahn.



Punctual pups and pals

Sun City residents gather at 3 p.m. for their daily doggie play date at The Barking Lot dog park. Photo by Nancy Guynn.



Sun City Table Tennis Training Academy

In October, the Sun City Table Tennis Club launched its first class of the club's new training academy. The academy offers classes that are tailored for targeted-level players. Above, new club members learn basic skills that will allow them to progress to the intermediate level.

Sun City Amateur Radio Society's Fox Hunt

Ham radio operators Don Davidson and Don Parrish, using radio directional finding equipment, were the first hunters to find a hidden transmitter (the "Fox") hidden by the winner of last month's hunt.

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